15th November 1949]

Decontrol of procurement and prices of groundnut oil cake.

* 20 Q.—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether the de-control of procurement and prices of groundnut oil cake has been ordered;

(b) whether it is a fact that, after de-control, there has been abnormal rise in the price of the cake and what the zonal prices are;

(c) whether it is a fact that some restrictions are still imposed on the free movement of the groundnut oil cake;

(d) whether the control of movements has also contributed to increase in the price of oil cake; and

(e) whether the Government have reviewed the whole position so that oil cake may be made easily available to agriculturists at reasonable rates?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) The de-control was ordered with effect from 15th January 1949.

" (b) There has been a rise in prices only at certain centres. The prices are published every fortnight in the Statistical supplement to the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

" (c) It is a fact that movements are regulated. The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the Press Note issued by the Government on the subject on 30th May 1949. A copy of the Press Note [a] is placed on the table of the House.

" (d) The answer is in the negative.

" (e) The matter is under consideration."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know the causes which have contributed to the increase in the prices of oil cake, if it is not the control of movement?"

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" There were certain irregularities on the part of the mills. In order to regulate the whole thing, de-control has been resorted to."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION.

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" This is usually taken as the first item of the day. Evidently the hon. Member is not aware of it. As a special case, I allow it now."

* Janab ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI :—" Mr. President, I beg to move the following resolution :—

' *this Council places on record its deep sense of sorrow at the demise of Moulvi Syed Murtuza Sahib who was a Member of the Madras Legislative Council and the Central Legis-*

---

a Printed as appendix on page 343 infra.